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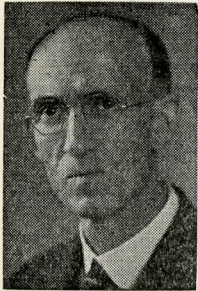
Mrs. Arnold G. Leppke, R. R. 2, Carrington, N. D., viewing her booth at the Foster County Fall Fair. All things shown were raised in their 7 year old shelterbelt. The seedling apples, she says, were a pleasant surprise—11 kinds, from eating quality to jelly crabs. Also displayed are 6 types of plums, hybrid and cherry plums, sand-cherries, buffaloberries, Nanking cherries. There were 15 separate canned fruits including June berries.

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1956 #4

THE MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD

by

O. A. STEVENS



O. A. Stevens

The bluebird, the harbinger of spring, occupies a prominent place in our literature. The eastern bluebird, which illustrated most of the outbursts, has brown underparts. It is seen in eastern North Dakota but is much

less common there than farther east. It is seen rarely in eastern Montana.

People in the western parts of the Dakotas often see a bluebird that is paler blue and lacks the brown breast. This is the mountain bluebird which was thought to have been described by William Swainson in 1831 from specimens collected by Fort Franklin on Great Bear Lake in northwestern Canada. Further studies showed that it had been described 33 years earlier in a German edition of Latham's work. It is quite common in most of western United States.

Like its eastern relative, the mountain bluebird is strongly migratory. It nests in the Black Hills, to some extent in the Bad Land section of North Dakota and on northward to British Columbia, southern Alberta and south western Manitoba. For the winter it travels southward as far as northern Mexico and is seen during the migrations as far east as western Kansas and Oklahoma. Eastern records are rare but a bird was reported in Sargent County, North Dakota in March 1954.

There is still another species known as Mexican or western bluebird which comes east only as far as Colorado and Wyoming. It reaches northern Idaho but is better represented farther south into Mexico and Central America. The male of this one is strongly marked with brown on the breast and extending around on the back. The females of all are much less strongly colored.

Saunders reported that the mountain bluebird nested all through Montana, chiefly in yellow pine areas

sometimes in cottonwoods or around buildings. He found them to arrive at Terry about March 25 and to begin to nest early in May.

For nests, old woodpecker holes or natural cavities in trees are used. Eggs are five to seven in number, pale blue like those of other bluebirds. Food habits vary according to season. Crickets, grasshoppers and other insects are the chief food during summer and dried wild fruits during winter.

Stuart Houston reported these birds as rather uncommon near Yorkton in Saskatchewan. He mentioned one nest is an iron pipe around a light pole guy wire and another in a crack in a barn. On June 23, 1843, when Audubon was at Fort Union (west of Williston, North Dakota) he found a nest of this bluebird in the stump of a tree.

Florence Merriam Bailey, in her book on birds of Western United States, commented: "The exquisite coloring of the arctic bluebird makes it seem the gentlest, most beautiful of all the lovely bluebirds."

ALL WET, BUT FUN

by

MARY LOUISE KINYON

*If I was a little new rain drop
I'd try to land on a mountain top
Then shoot the shoots down a water fall
To answer the mighty ocean call.*

*Roaring down a rocky gorge
I know right well I'd not be boreal
Down to a river, on to the sea
Complete success this would be
And lots more fun than watering a tree.*

For every man who lives to be 85 there are 7 women, but by that time it's too late.

—WISCONSIN HORTICULTURE —

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APRIL, 1956

VOL. 29

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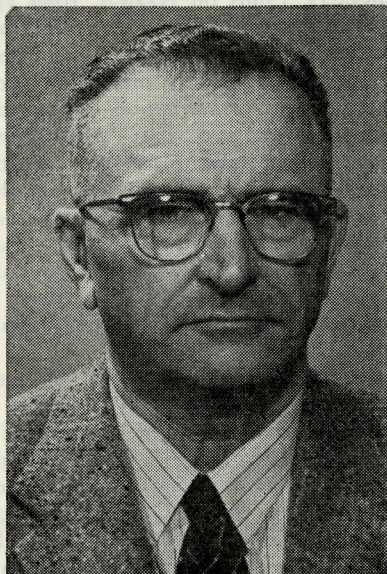
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DAKOTA HORTICULTURE

NEWSLANTS

by

H. A. GRAVES



The far reaching effect of the slogan, "Peace Garden State," on the North Dakota 1956 license plates is reflected in this letter received by Senator William Langer from a gentleman from Raleigh, North Carolina:

Dear Senator Langer:

Much pleased today to read the words: on the license plate of an automobile from your State, parked across from Capitol Square here.

"Peace Garden State," happy thought indeed! The simplicity and calmness contained in the words, breathed a message in contrast to the clamor and stress and feverish activity that fills the air.

Other States have placed descriptive as well as attractive phrases on their automobile plates, but not one exceeds the intriguing appeal of that of North Dakota.

The words on the plate seem to convey the idea that the people of North Dakota are resolved not to be unduly affected by outside influences, and to pursue the even tenor of their way.

Most truly yours,
Fred G. Mahler

Heather Ann Skinner arrived at the residence of Dr. and Mrs. Frank Skinner on February 18. Heather weighed eight pounds. She will make a fine playmate for her sister, Isabella. Congratulations to the Skinners.

"Your Lawn," circular 244, is the title of a brand new circular on lawns available from the Information Department at NDAC. Also just off the press is "Roses, You Can Grow Them in North Dakota." The latter is circular No. 118. "This Is Free Farming" is the title of a sixteen page tree booklet from the American Forest Products Industries Inc. 1816 N. Street, N. W. Washington 6, D. C.

Research workers in Vermont have found at their Maple Research Farm that certain trees in a maple sugar bush consistently produce more sugar than other nearby trees. Large headed, or "roadside trees," are the best producers. These high producing trees either produce more sap or produce sap that is higher in sugar content—or both. Vermont developed the Rule of 86. They divide 86 by the percentage of sugar in sap from a given tree. Since sap in Vermont runs from two to two and a half percent sugar, it takes from 34 to 43 gallons of sap to make one gallon of syrup.

In case any of you have wondered about how extensive the Byrd apple operations are the following eight paragraphs from the Indiana News-letter will no doubt startle you:

B. Beverley Byrd of Berryville, Va., one of Senator Harry Byrd's three sons and production manager for H. F. Byrd, Inc., speaking before Martinsburg Kiwanis Club recently, by request recited actual statistics of the Byrd father-and-sons operations. Their apple plantings are the biggest in the U. S. under one management, so far as we know. But this 4-state belt averages the biggest orchards in the U. S. by a wide margin. There are at least 10 plantations of 2,000-to-1,000 acres of apples, and many over 500 acres. Apples are Big Business in Appalachian.

Beverley Byrd's statistics were so impressive that, when reported, they came to the attention of the New York Times, who sent a man to Berryville to check, and on Sunday, November 6, published a feature story, liberally illustrated, on the Byrd family and their apples.

Among the statistics noted by Beverley Byrd were these: almost 5,000 acres comprising 210,000 trees in apples on 11 orchards located from Charles Town, W. Va., to New Market, Va. Eighty per cent of the trees are under 18 years of age.

Present production $1\frac{1}{2}$ million bushels. Within 5 years, they expect $2\frac{1}{2}$ million. Red Delicious make up 20% of their crop.

PAYROLL: \$20,000 a day during the harvesting season and \$2,700 a day for the rest of the year. That would add up to an annual payroll of about \$1,600,000. **EMPLOYEES:** 300 year-around workers plus 1,500 during harvest. **PROPERTY:** Eleven orchards, five packing houses, one cannery, three cold storage units with a total capacity of 550,000 bushels and five camp houses accommodating 100 transient workers each. **EQUIPMENT:** Sixty 2-ton trucks, 23 orchard wagons and tractors, 53 high-pressure sprayers, 400,000 bushel-picking boxes, 750 picking baskets and 750 ladders, 22 buses ranging up to fifty-passenger capacity, 12 pick-up trucks and 25,000 smudge pots.

DAILY CAPACITY: An average of 30,000 bushels a day during the picking season. That is 3-to-4 million apples. October 13 was a record day, when 61,000 bushels were picked. Of these, 24,000 bushels were packed for the "fresh" market and 19,000 cases of canned products were processed. The remaining 18,000 bushels went into cold storage for future handling.

PLANTING: 15,000 trees set out last year and 16,000 scheduled for this year.

About 1,000 cases of canned sauce and sliced apples are processed in the three months of cannery operations. From the trimmings and cores are pressed 750,000 gallons of vinegar stock and 50,000 gallons of apple juice concentrate for jelly. What's left is dried into 600 tons of pomace for sale to dairy farmers as livestock feed.

We hear there is some talk of using Melvin Bergesson's flowering crab, "Red Splendor," as a boulevard tree on mile long Thorpe Avenue in Ada, Minnesota. This avenue has recently been widened and improved. Red Splendor is a fine ornamental crab. We have one in our back yard that holds its petals and color better than other rosyblooms in neighboring yards. This calls to mind, also, a new addition in Grand Forks that planted Hopas as boulevard trees about four years ago. How did they turn out, Frances?

The three following items were gleaned from the NDAC Botany

(Continued on page 47)

GARDEN CLUB GLEANINGS

by
MRS. VERN TOMPKINS



Mrs. Tompkins

We welcome the Aberdeen Garden Club back into the fold. They have forty-four members. Newly elected officers are: Pres., Mr. Will Mertz; Vice Pres., Mr. Marion Smith; Sec'y, Mrs. Theo. Mehlhaff; Treas.,

Mrs. Roy Shoop; Historian, Mrs. J. E. Kelly. They have a number of interested men in their group, which always helps. Happy gardening to you, Aberdeen!

Mrs. Ross Inman sends news of the Watertown Garden Club. In February, 25 members met in the First Federal Community Room for dessert lunch. Hostesses were Mrs. Ross Inman, Mrs. Roy Rose, Mrs. Jennie Sikkink and Mrs. R. H. Barnes. Mrs. Gordon Berns was a guest. Roll call topic was 'Favorite floral arrangement.' Mrs. Frank L. Bramble demonstrated arranging. Mrs. Inman showed colored slides taken at many flower shows.

The Rural Garden Circle of Crooks met in January at the home of Mrs. Carl Nytroe, with Mrs. Olaf Olson co-hostess, for a dessert luncheon. Roll call topic was New Years Garden Resolutions. Mrs. Edwin Johnson gave a talk on Garden Therapy, and gave hints for the month. Two members having January birthdays were honored with favors and gifts from the president, Mrs. Flora Steer. In March Alice and Inga Tideman were hostesses. Roll call topic was 'Habits of a Bird.' Mrs. Carl Nytroe presented the lesson on 'What to plant to attract birds!'

The Viborg Garden Club has started it's 6th year with a membership of twenty-five. The theme for the year is Flower Arrangement. At each meeting one member will discuss some phase of flower arranging and one member will bring a flower arrangement. Mr. Sletvold, owner of the Sletvold Flower Shop and Greenhouse in Vermillion, was a guest speaker and showed colored films of chrysanthemums. Mrs. Levi Nelson Publicity Chairman.

Mrs. Bill Buckeberg, secretary of the Winner Garden Club sends a summary of the year's activities. They feel that they have had a very successful year under the leadership of Mrs. J. I. Harrington. The annual Club breakfast was held at the home of Mrs. R. F. Read in June with 42 members and 10 guests from the Colome Garden Club enjoying the breakfast and program. Prizes were awarded for the prettiest, funniest and most original hats worn. Perfect attendance prizes were awarded to two members. At the July meeting, an amendment was made to the by-laws, limiting the membership to 40. Two members gave very interesting talks on gardens seen on the trip to Canada. Mrs. Hale Osborn was guest speaker at the September meeting. She brought a pair of her chinchillas, and gave interesting information on the care, habits, and the value of the furs; also on the origin of these little animals.

Mrs. Dick Raske sends a bit of news from the Countryside Garden Club, of Highmore. This club is miles out in the country so do not always get together every month. They have 11 members at this time. Mrs. Raske says "We took part in the Carl Starker arrangement program; also had exhibits at the Flower Show. We had a plant exchange and at one meeting we had slides from Mrs. Kindred and the State Federation.

This report from Mrs. A. W. Davidson, of the Mobridge Garden Club. At the January meeting it was voted to change our club year to begin January 1st, rather than some rather vague time in the fall. New officers are: president, Mrs. Al Bastian; vice president, Judge H. E. Mundt; secretary, Mrs. A. W. Davidson; treasurer, Mrs. Martin Saur. We miss Mrs. Briley so much. She kept us in touch with the State Federation, and was so active in our club.

After a winter recess, the Centerville Garden Club held a Guest Day at the home of Mrs. Lenora Alexander on March 19th. All business was tabled and the meeting turned over to Mr. Sletvold of the Sletvold greenhouse in Vermillion. He showed slides and gave interesting and valuable information on chrysanthemums. He has many varieties which are hardy in South Dakota and many new colors to choose from. At the close of his program he presented each one present with an ivy.

Ruth Habeger tells what the Madison Garden Club is doing, and they do sound busy. Their plans for the year include—*Horticulture*—two outside speakers. Films on Azaleas, roses and garden beautification; Practicum: Soil testing workshop; Begin 'Plant-Testing Program.' Every member a compost pile. *Conservation*—Propagate state flower; To start wild flower plantings in Lake Herman Park; try to visit more State Parks; every garden a bird sanctuary; field work and study of birds; films and speakers on conservation. *Therapy*—Plantings at Lake View Rest Home; holiday cheer to hospitals; remember shut-ins with gifts.

Mrs. John Febuary says of their February 1st meeting, "In spite of it being a bitter cold night, the Fair City Club, Huron, had 18 members out. Our program was: Conservation Pledge, "Sweetheart Quickie" arrangement, by Mrs. Severance; roll call; Your favorite garden catalogue; Talk on trees, and a pruning demonstration by Jack Kunhart, City Park Superintendent; talk "Keep South Dakota Green," Millard Scott, vice president KSDGA; Horticulture lesson and display of ivies, Mrs. A. Saunders.

Happenings in the Home Garden Club of Britton, as told by Mrs. A. M. Odland are: The Committee on the history of the club are now getting busy on compiling interesting and important facts of the club for the past twenty years. At the February meeting Mrs. Bonham talked on various plants she has been trying in her new greenhouse. One of the successes was a Camellia plant which produced a large number of blossoms.

Mrs. John Charles, secretary of the Andover club, sends names of other officers: president, Mrs. Harry Raap; vice president, Mrs. James McKane Sr.; treasurer, Mrs. John Wendt.

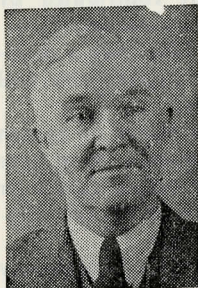
Adeline M. Jenney, Valley Springs, sends news of the Tri-State Garden club. The November meeting, held with Mrs. Elmer Allen, in Valley Springs, had many beautiful exhibits for winter bouquets; Chinese lanterns, various seed pods, from tulips to yucca, mingled with sour dock and fire bush sprays or just some swaying reed leaves. Mrs. Marion Scott showed center pieces for which she received blue and red ribbons from the United Nations flower show.

(Continued on page 43)

MANITOBA NEWS LETTER

by
W. R. LESLIE

Uses of Plants by Our Indians



Leslie

Other important root plants were the wild Jerusalem artichoke, which abounds in low ground everywhere and was eaten both raw and boiled like potatoes; and the mouse or ground bean.

The latter, *folcata camosa*, a peculiar plant found in the timber along most streams; it has a bean-like vine upon which blossoms and small bean seeds are produced. It also has a running underground rootstalk, at the joints of which appear flat brownish tubers of about the size and shape of lima beans and said to be of excellent flavor. These beans would be impossible to gather from the vines, but there is a particular species of mouse which makes a practice of gathering and storing them in quantities of one to several quarts. Such stores are located by prodding with a stick in likely places. When found they are removed and a few ears of corn regularly left in exchange.

The wild onion was regularly collected and eaten either boiled or roasted, alone or in combination with meat, etc. It has, as those who have tested it of course know, a strong resemblance in flavor to garlic. In reading the journal of General de Trobriand, who built Fort Stevenson near Garrison in 1876, I find that wild onions were a frequent article of diet in the spring as a remedy and preventative of scurvy. They were bought in considerable quantities from the Indians.

Two other much esteemed and often gathered roots were the tubers of *sagittaria*, or arrow leaf, and those of the yellow water lily, both of which are found generally over the state. They were sometimes boiled, sometimes roasted, and were much relished both ways. The seeds of the pond lily were also roasted and eaten.

The green tops of the two plants were put to somewhat odd uses. The shoots of the common milkweed, *Asclepias syriaca*, were cut and cooked

just as we use asparagus, and the tender flower buds and tips were also used in the same way. The skeleton weed, which is today the only competitor of Russian thistle in survival as a live green plant, furnished a chewing gum which possesses all the quality and texture of chiclé. The gum is the dried yellow milky juice and some patience is required to collect enough for a good cud.

Among the seeds of wild plants perhaps those of the wild sunflower were most used, being added to the store of tame sunflowers grown in their gardens and used in the same ways. It is also possible that the wild ones all through the great plains have escaped from Indian gardens and became wild just as the horses have done in the same region.

Our state furnishes a very meagre list of nuts but the hazel-nuts were very much used and so, too, were the acorns of our burr oak, though they had to have the bitter taste leached out before becoming edible. Both nuts were roasted and boiled, often in combination with other foods.

The wild flax seed was gathered and used in soups and stews for the improved flavor which it gave to them.

Just as the Indians further east were discoverers of the process of producing sugar and syrup from the maple, so our great plains tribes used the same methods with the box elder, and even yet tap and make sugar from its sap.

The wild grape vine was also tapped and its sap, said to taste like grape juice, was used as a beverage.

Before the advent of tea and coffee hot drinks were brewed from the wild sage, native mint, hops and other aromatic plants, including the wild anise or *agastache*.

For smoking, beside the little cultivated tobacco which was raised by some of our North Dakota Indians, the bark of the red dogwood or *kinikinek*, *Cornus stolonifera*, was most esteemed. The young smooth bark was peeled, dried in the sun, and has a pleasant flavor and aroma. It does, however, burn the tongue, and is used now largely in a mixture with tobacco. Besides the dogwood, the leaves of the bearberry were much esteemed, as were the fall leaves of the sumac.

There are also a number of plants used by the women as perfumes and to give a pleasant scent to clothing, etc.,

as well as to the person. Among the plants so used were the meadow rue, columbine, wild heliotrope, and sweet grass. They have also adopted the imported sweet clover and oftentimes hang bundles of it in their cabins for its fragrance. Cedar twigs were also used to give a pleasant odor to the lodge, oftentimes by burning, as was sometimes done with the sweet grass.

Plants played a very important part in the industrial life of the Indian, in the domestic, hunting and war phases.

For the bow the wood of the green ash was preferred, while for the arrow the young shoots of the Juneberry ranked first with the young ash shoots second. The bowstring was made from nettle fibre, or even better, from the fiber of the dogbane which makes, I believe, the best and strongest cord I have ever seen.

Cordage for other purposes was of course made from the dogbane, the nettle and other material, and it is claimed that a coarse cloth, too, was sometimes woven from nettle strings.

The *equisetum*, or horsetail plant was used as a polishing material for arrow shafts and other wooden objects.

The cat-tail furnished, in the down of the mature head, a useful absorbent and among other uses served as a liner for the infants' diapers.

The yucca leaves when bruised produce an excellent thread with needle already attached. The root makes an excellent soap which lathers and cleanses very satisfactorily.

Prickly pear produces a gelatinous juice which is useful as a sizing over the painting on robes and other clay pots.

For basketry our aborigines used the inner bark of the box elder for white, of diamond willow for brown, and for black they soaked the willow bark in black muck from a slough. The yucca leaves were also woven into baskets and bags.

Small rods of sandbar willow were bound together to make mats and back rests.

For dyes a number of plants were used, as well as organic materials. The bloodroot furnished an excellent red dye. Dodder and certain lichens supply yellow dyes and blue was made from certain berries which I have been unable to identify from descriptions so far.

(Continued on page 48)

OUR PERMANENT HOME

by

MRS. D. S. BAUGHMAN

In Dakota Horticulture, May, 1955 issue, we told about the Missouri Botanical Garden (popularly known as "Shaw's Garden") located in St. Louis, Missouri and the site on which the Permanent Home will be built. A copy of this article was sent to every garden club in the state. Now Mrs. William J. Walters, Chairman of Trustees for the Permanent Home, gives some facts about the National Council. She states:

"First of all, we are a *non-profit, educational organization* of 375,000 members in 11,000 clubs representing 44 State Federations. Our dues to National Council are only *ten cents per year per member*.

National Council is dedicated to *horticultural education and promotion; the exchange of information and ideas; community betterment*, and lastly, to the *conservation of all natural resources and the preservation of human resources*.

The dues paid to National Council, which constitute its income, pay all running expenses—office rent, secretarial help, printing, postage, and all the miscellaneous expenses connected with running any large organization. *All other work—all other services—are on a volunteer basis.*

What are some of these services? (briefly)

ROADSIDE DEVELOPMENT AND BEAUTIFICATION, this includes our famous "Litterbug" campaign; GARDEN CENTERS; GARDEN THERAPY; FLOWER SHOW SCHOOLS; SCHOLARSHIPS; LEGISLATION; JUNIOR WORKSHOPS.

We have, as volunteers, given \$55,000 through SEEDS OF PEACE to war-torn countries; \$12,000 in agricultural equipment for Europe; a Redwood Grove to the nation; we promoted the Blue Star Memorial Highways; we WILL NOW BUILD A PERMANENT HOME AS A BETTER MEANS OF CONTINUING AND ENLARGING OUR SERVICES, AS A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION FOR ALL GARDENERS."

What are we doing about Permanent Home in South Dakota? As of September 30, 1955, our contribu-

tions in the state amounted to \$580.13. In alphabetical order and included with small states like Rhode Island and Delaware, and with new states like Idaho and New Mexico and with donors from Bermuda, Canada and England—our South Dakota effort may not look conspicuous but run it down and we find only five states have given less than ours. Missouri has given \$20,232.13.

At the garden level, Mrs. Kindred writes that the last report she has received places South Dakota third from the bottom of the list of states in the United States in its number of clubs that are 100% (i.e. have given the equivalent of one dollar per member and are entitled to a citation. Not so good for a state that ranks so high in per capita of wealth, is it?

I guess some of our clubs just have not caught the "spark." They are busy with their own projects and are doing splendid work in their own community and in the state. A dollar per member seems like a lot to be sending far away. AND, I haven't been keeping in touch. When we took in \$60 at our corsage banquet during Convention last year, I thought we had done very well indeed. For the rest of the year, other things claimed my full time.

I have written to nine District Chairmen and to every club except the very new ones and those already up for citations. Answers are coming in and I am sure clubs will do their best to meet this challenge. Citations have been sent to twelve clubs. Four more are 100% but are still held up for more information—others are coming along. *District 7 leads in the state.* This district has three clubs in Miller and three in Highmore and all are 100% except one club.

Did you notice that the *National Convention* will be held in *St. Louis May 17-22, 1959*? And have you read in the *Nov.-Dec.* issue of *National Gardener*, page 19, the article "Welcome to St. Louis, telling about the Hospitality Committee already at work? A note in advance or a phone call on arrival in the city will bring a friend to bid you welcome and conduct you through the Missouri Botanical Garden and to the Permanent Home site. St. Louis is approximately 650 miles from Sioux Falls. The Hospitality Chairman is Mrs. Walter E.

Morris, 9 Graybridge Dr., St. Louis 24, Missouri.

And how can we raise money? Here are a few suggestions. The first five are Mrs. Walters. She says they are guaranteed to be painless and productive. The others are contributed by South Dakota garden clubbers.

1. Hold a Penny Sale. Ask a member of any church society; she will know how it is done.

2. Hold an open house or garden party. Every garden member must have at least one member with a garden or home that many persons in the community would pay to see.

3. Hold a Birthday Party. Ask every member to give one penny for each year she hopes to live. Every member will want to reach 100.

4. Instigate Regional competition. You all know how a contest will spur us to action.

5. Set up an exchange of ideas.

6. "White Elephant" sale. Have members bring to club—containers, vases, dishes, planters, figurines, other accessories, driftwood, weeds, dried flowers—anything they do not use and are tired of storing. Members choose from these and take home—absentees get the left-overs. On another club day this stuff is brought back in new dress. You will be amazed to see what has been done with them in new hands. Auction them off—they will bring good prices and it will be fun. Some will find themselves bidding high to get back their discarded white elephant.

7. Auction sales of bulbs, seedlings, slips, plants—usually sell very well.

8. National Books Inc. is a regular source of new ideas and profit. The calendars are a good item for many clubs. Every club should have a book chairman.

Please send me ideas you have tried successfully in your club. Let's make it a real exchange. Ask me any questions.

When you send contributions, and I hope many of you will be doing just that, add a note giving your membership, name of president and her address, name of club—note any other contributions you have made—if possible give the number in right-hand upper corner of your old receipt. You can make checks to National Council of State Garden Clubs but send to me. Let me know if you do not have receipts for every gift.

DAKOTA HORTICULTURE

EXPERIENCE IN HORTICULTURE

by

R. L. WODARZ



Wodarz

Looking over the Agricultural Conservation Program for North Dakota, I see the following trees and shrubs, among others, are recommended for planting in the shelterbelts: Siberian crabapple, wild plums, sand cherry, chokecherry. Thru much of my life I have been observing the development of my few acres of fruit plantation. I have run across many a pleasant surprise, but again not so pleasant. Starting an orchard on a farm where no fruit trees have been grown, things work out just fine; there are no fruit bugs or diseases. And if the proprietor of this new venture is warned and takes heed he will get by without much trouble. Years ago we did believe bugs would not be of much trouble in this rugged North Dakota climate; we surely changed our minds. I presume the reader is just wondering

what I am after. It is my belief that the soil conservation personnel had in mind the pure cherry crab of the size that a bird could do way with in one gulp. Now here is the question, are we assured we can get those true to type cherry crab seedlings? The chances are that seeds gathered would be those that have been cross pollinated with larger fruit. Consequently the fruit would be a small or medium sized crab. One might ask, but what is the difference? Suppose we had a row one half mile long of those larger fruiting crab seedlings: In a few years those trees will begin to fruit. For a time the fruit would be clean, but sooner or later the codling moth would invade, also the maggot fly will find its way into the grove. The chalcid bug is apt to make its appearance to destroy the seed within the apple. Some of the trees may suffer from scab. With so many different seedlings fireblight may attack some of them, leaving cankers for further infestation. Spray and sanitary measures would take care of this but it would not pay, so it would not be done. The thousands of little apples falling into the grass and weeds, to pick them up would be an unending task. As the time goes by, we may have more small orchards to at least supply our local wants. In my mind's eye I see some orchards under irrigation. One would believe we should be more successful, as the orchardist could control the growth of the trees thru the

entire season. Flooding, or withholding water as needs be, and besides nicer, larger fruit it should minimize winter killing. Now should we have some of the crabapple shelterbelts with their reservoir for pests and diseases, it would be a discouraging undertaking. With all this trucking and otherwise bringing apples from the coast to our state it is easy to understand the spread of the maggot. But how the chalcid fly found this part of the country is a puzzle to me. It could not have come from parts where they only raise apples of fair size, standard apples, as they are immune to the pest. Will say that the pure cherry crab at this place, so far, has not been attacked by this chalcid fly. This past summer and fall I examined crabapples for the infestation at Brookings, Ortonville, Dickinson and Mandan and no chalcid bugs were found at these places. As far as the plum is concerned it is apt to harbor crculio, especially so if seedlings are of mixed varieties. Some may suffer from borers. Should there be a great build-up, an apple orchard will suffer in the ill-shaped fruit. The chokecherry here in North Dakota is suffering from a virus disease which has been killing this shrub slowly but surely. What makes matters worse this virus may spread to our valuable plums. So, unless we discover some chokecherry stock immune to this virus disease it would not do to plant it in a shelterbelt.



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BOX 600-H

BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA

WRITE TODAY FOR OUR NEW 1956 CATALOG, FREE — With *EIGHT* More Pages of Color!

BROOKINGS INVITES US

Greetings to members of the South Dakota Federation of Garden Clubs and the State Horticultural Society from the garden clubs of Brookings. We hope to meet you on June 27, 28, and 29 at State College Campus for the annual convention.

The detailed program of events, with place and time for each, will be mailed to every club, and appear in the "Horticulture" magazine. The schedule for the State Flower Show will also be included with this material.

You will want to inspect the college campus while in Brookings, as well as view the collection of Harvey Dunn paintings. Make it a point to look over facilities in the fields of special interest to your family: agriculture, printing, home economics, engineering, the dormitories and Union Building.

While shopping, we invite you to visit the Shopper's Lounge next to the City Hall, to rest or meet your friends.

Please make arrangements for room reservations by writing directly to the following:

Hotels: Bates, Sawnee, and Sheldon

Motels: Brookings Motel, Hillcrest Motel, Malinda Motel, Parkdale Motel, and Wayside Motor Court

Private rooms: Write to Mrs. Clarence Shanley, 611 7th Avenue.

Do plan to be with us—we are looking forward to meeting you.

MRS. U. J. NORGAARD,
President,

Brookings Garden Club

MRS. EUGENE WHITMORE
President,

Petal Pals Garden Club

Here are the Hotel and Motel rates:
Hotel Sawnee, 317 3rd Ave. Room with bath, \$4. Without \$2.50 to \$2.75.

Bates Hotel, 303 3rd Ave. With bath \$3.75. Without, \$1.75 for one, \$2.75 for two.

Sheldon Hotel, 516½ Main. With bath single \$3.50; double, \$5. Without, \$2.50, single; \$3.50, double.

Brookings Motel, 108 6th St., \$5 for one, \$7 for two and \$12 for four.

Hillcrest Motel, 1433 6th St., \$4 for one; \$5 for two; and \$6 for four.

Parkdale Motel, 6th St. W., \$3.50 to \$8 for one to eight.

Wayside Motor Court, 1430 6th St., \$2 to \$2.50 single; \$3 to \$4,

double; and \$7 to \$9 for four.

For rooms in private homes write to Mrs. Clarence Shanley, 611 7th Ave.

Transportation Co-Chairmen, Mrs. Dale McCord, 321 Main Ave. S.; Mr. W. G. Binnewies, 817 6th St.

STATE FLOWER SHOW

June 27, 28, 1956

So. Dak. State College

Brookings, So. Dak.

Definitions

1. An arrangement consists of the container, the plant material in it and the base under it.
2. Composition, a flower arrangement with one or more accessories.

Rules

1. All entries will be accepted until 11 a.m. June 27th.
2. Exhibitors are asked to have their names on the bases of all containers and accessories. The use of adhesive tape is suggested.
3. Flowers do not have to be grown by the exhibitor.
4. Clipped foliage permitted.
5. Only one entry in each class may be made by an exhibitor.
6. Exhibits must be removed between 4 and 6 p.m. Thursday, June 28th.
7. Any arrangement brought after hour mentioned above will be placed for exhibit only. Not competitive.
8. Containers will be furnished for Horticulture specimens.
9. Horticulture specimens must have been grown by exhibitor.

HORTICULTURE SECTION

Peonies

(A)

Named 1 bloom double

- 1 White
- 2 Blush
- 3 Pink
- 4 Red

Unnamed 1 bloom single

- 5 White
- 6 Blush
- 7 Pink
- 8 Red

Unnamed 1 bloom double

- 9 White
- 10 Blush
- 11 Pink
- 12 Red

(B)

Unnamed 1 bloom single

- 13 White
- 14 Blush

15 Pink

16 Red

Japanese 1 bloom

17 White or blush

18 Pink

19 Red

Delphinium

Hybrid one stalk

20 Light blue

21 Medium blue

22 Dark blue

23 Bi-color, light

24 Bi-color, medium

25 Bi-color, dark

26 Light mauve to lilac

27 Medium mauve to violet

28 Dark mauve to purple

29 White or cream

IRIS

(A)

Bearded

30 One stalk, named

31 One stalk, unnamed

(B)

Beardless

32 One stalk named

33 One stalk unnamed

HEMEROCALLIS

34 Named one stalk

35 Unnamed one stalk

36 Seedling

ROSES

(A)

Tea, one bloom

37 White

38 Yellow

39 Pink

40 Red

41 Bi-Color

(B)

Floribunda, one stem

42 White

43 Yellow

44 Pink

45 Red

46 Bi-color

(C)

Grandiflora

47 One stem named

The judges will award the Grand Champion to the best bloom of the show.

ARRANGEMENT SECTION

"Flowery Songs"

1. "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning"

For a breakfast table.

2. "Old Folks at Home"

A composition suggesting serenity.

(Continued on page 44)

DAKOTA HORTICULTURE



Latest picture of Mr. F. X. Wallner. They do strange things to people who trust themselves out in the wild and wooley west. The picture suggests that he has been dehorned.

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE NOTES

by

F. X. WALLNER

The February Arbor Day story out here in the extreme west of the Nation is a sort of mockery, with the whole of the two states still in the clutches of extreme winter. But I see, by a map, there are several states that have Arbor Day on February 15th, two fairly warm sunny days here in the desert valley between the mountain ranges east of the Cascades but still the most severe weather ever, but all of the northern half of the globe seems to have extreme cold. The sun getting cold is becoming an interesting topic. In the next few days I will make a more thorough inspection of the damage done, but I do know it's bad. I have estimated 90% loss in roses and shrubs of these two northwestern states, so that roses and shrubbery of the ordinary type of the Dakotas, will be more popular out here this planting season. A year ago the last of February there were many different flowers and shrubs in bloom, but this year there is nothing in bloom. The only buds swelling are on the lilacs and honeysuckles. I even fear for the largest black walnut tree that I have ever

seen, that is growing here in Kay Lou areas. When that November freeze hit, all the green foliage and the bushels of nuts fell to the ground in one day, covering the ground 12 inches deep with a black mass that took several days to clean up. All nuts were ruined, so there was no squirrel feed. Feb. 25th—Today we crossed the Columbia river by the new ferry, a few miles north of Richland, Washington, to see the farms being sold in the extreme southern tip of the big basin project. The water is in, comes from far away Grand Coulee, more than 150 miles to the north. It takes a lot of courage and money to get started here in the desert, with sand blowing to bury the machinery strung out and many of the irrigation canals filled with sand. For many miles there are black-topped roads but few homes. Alfalfa and grass should be put in first, rather than cash crops and grain. Even the dry wheat farms are assured of a bumper wheat crop much more than the allocated amount. February 27th—A trip down to the McNary dam, by way of the Horse Heaven wheat country, across the Columbia, back on the Oregon super highway. We cross four big rivers flowing into the Columbia. Here the river is known as McNary reservoir and is three miles wide in places. The picture of the spruce grow-

ing out of an old evergreen stump, shown in the OREGON LEADER reminds me of many such evergreens here growing in Grotto Park, south of Portland; a few were self-started but most, I planted. March 5th—Now comes the news that 85% of grapes and fruit was lost in the severe winter in Europe. Our own northwest may also have almost that big a loss in many types of fruit. The "Elwoodie" evergreen has suffered most of the specimen plantings in yards. The Irish Yew and other similar, also are still brown. I am interested in an Irish Yew growing in son Frank's yard. While it is on the north side of the house and gets no sun-burn, but takes more zero weather, in South Dakota the Berkman Golden Arborvitae may not be hurt as much as many others that still look doubtful. Now comes news that many strawberries are dead. There is very little mulching or hilling up of tender shrubbery done out here so there will be losses up to 90%. Some fruits will be scarce for some time and all of the northern half of the earth will be short of fruit for several years. Cold and snow here in March is unheard of but it seems to be even much colder in the central states and east, but spring will surely come again.

ARBOR DAY

by

R. J. ELLIOTT, Ass't Forester

ARBOR DAY is everyday for everybody, everywhere. In the words of J. Sterling Morton, Founder of Arbor day, "All other anniversaries refer to the past and its dead. Arbor day alone deals with the present and the future. It stretches its sheltering shades over the unborn millions of coming generations and in the voices of the leafy woods, pronounces benedictions upon posterity."

Plant a tree this year on ARBOR DAY. Plant a memorial tree in your yard or schoolgrounds or cemetery. Plant a living Christmas tree in your yard to lighten and brighten yours and the lives of your fellow men. Plant a tree to protect your home from the summer and winter winds and to pro-

(Continued on page 48)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by

MRS. E. M. KINDRED



Mrs. Kindred

*Calculate a feller
Gets to be a
better guy,
Putterin' in a gar-
den
While spring
goes trippin'
by.*

—Mary Locke
Johnson

Last spring I
was preparing an
exhibit on our

state flower for one of the eastern states. Mr. Will Robinson, state historian was kind enough to give me the information below, on how the Pasque Flower came to be our state flower.

Prior to 1903 South Dakota had no official flower, bird, tree etc., but that year Mr. J. H. Close of White Lake in talking to Doane Robinson, who was then Secretary of the Department of History, suggested that the pasque flower, sometimes called the wind flower, or the anemone pulsatilla was the first flower to bloom in the spring and that it would be a nice thing to adopt it as the State Flower. Between them they got the idea of a motto, "I Lead," which in fact the pasque flower does. Based on this conversation a bill was drawn up by Mr. Robinson, who at that time drew many bills for the legislature and was put in by Mr. Close. It said the State Floral Emblem shall be the pasque or wind flower with the accompanying motto: "I Lead." The House struck out the word wind, and put in (in parentheses) after the word flower (Anemone Pulsatilla) and this became the law on March 5, 1903.

Here is a bit on the flower itself. Pasque means "Easter" for since the Pasque Flower is one of the earliest it is often in bloom on Easter morning. Widely scattered from Montana in the west to Texas in the south it often reaches eastward through the prairies and westward into the mountains, where it climbs to an elevation of 9,000 feet. The bud appears from the tip of a stem from three to six inches high. It is enclosed in a deeply cut and involucre of gray bracts of silvery hue and shining brightness. Soon the bud expands into a cup like flower of bluish purple color shading to white at the base. A central mass of yellow

stamens provides a golden lining for the base of the cup. The six colored leaves of the flower are called sepals since there is no green calyx to enfold them. Each is over an inch long and as they fade a rosette of finely divided leaves appears about the base of the stem that now carries a head of seeds, each adorned with a long curling plume style. Among the many names given to this plant, Wild Crocus, Wind Flower and Prairie Smoke are most commonly heard. It is one of the most striking of the region and always attracts the attention of the visitor from other regions.

Interesting things are being planned for our state convention in Brookings. June 27, 28, 29, where all events will be held on the college campus for our convenience. A flower show will be held and a schedule will be mailed each club with the call at least a month before convention.

I know that you will be as happy as I when you learn that Gretchen Harshbarger, Garden Editor of the Household Magazine is to be our banquet speaker on the evening of June 27. Another out of state speaker of note will be Dr. A. F. Yeager, head of the department of Horticulture of the University of New Hampshire. Mrs. J. B. Collins of Great Falls, Mont., our Regional Director, will be with us and will speak. There will be a Flower Arranging Demonstration and members of the State Game Fish and Parks Department as well as well informed members of the Department of Horticulture of our own state college will contribute. Plans are being made for the appearance of a magician on our Fun Night and on the third day an interesting and informative tour is being arranged. Please draw a red line around those dates on your calendar and begin making plans to attend. A complete program will appear in our next issue.

Will those who plan to attend the National Council Convention in Salt Lake City June 4-9 please drop me a card. You will find details of the Rocky Mountain Region Tour elsewhere in this issue.

The Keep South Dakota Green Association is planning to commemorate Arbor Day at 2 p.m. on Friday, May 11, with a ceremony at the site where the National Christmas tree was cut last December. This ceremony will include dedication of a rustic sign

telling the story of the Christmas tree and will be climaxed by planting a small Black Hills Spruce to replace the one sent to the White House for the Pageant of Peace. This will be a most impressive ceremony and it is hoped that many will plan a trip to the Hills at this time. Mr. E. L. Ingvalson, chairman of Keep South Dakota Green can give you definite information on how to reach the site.

For the third year Plankinton will hold a tulip festival. An outstanding event in the state and well worth a trip to attend. Would make a good garden club tour. Watch for dates.

I want to commend the clubs for returning the questionnaires well filled and mailed back promptly in most cases. It has been a thrilling experience to check them and to learn of your fine accomplishments.

Hope that you are planning to apply for some of the state awards. Let's have a lot of competition this year. Nearly every club in the state has done something outstanding.

"Trash Cans Placed Every Five Miles, For Your Convenience."

This sign greeted us as we drove along a highway in Florida during early January. And sure enough, about every five miles we did come to a small turnout and a trash can. Another sign, a short distance before we reached it, announced that the can was just ahead. Did we use it? Certainly, and I believe, if we had seen anyone throwing anything out on to the highway, we would have let them know we disapproved, in some way. Perhaps it isn't necessary to have a trash can every five miles. Perhaps 10 or 15 miles would be alright. It would only take a few more minutes to drive that distance. However, we do feel that since it is so easy to throw bottles, cans or paper out of a car window, especially when no inducement such as a trash can is provided, that here lies the solution to the Litter bug problem.

H. J. Rahmlow, in WISCONSIN HORTICULTURE. Editor's note. The cost of the cans would be considerable, but as they could be expected to last for at least 5 years, this might even save money over a period of years, over the present cost of picking up this debris yearly. And in addition our roadsides would always be clean.

DAKOTA HORTICULTURE

SECRETARY'S CORNER

by

W. A. SIMMONS



Simmons

From the number of book loan requests that have been coming in, a great many of our members have learned to read. In sending in her Horticulture Society dues, Mrs. Mae Urbanek, of Lusk, Wyoming, writes as follows:

"Wyoming is finally going to organize on a state basis (at least I hope so) so we can become affiliated with National Federation of Garden clubs. We are having an organization meeting at Wheatland on March 22nd. It will be a long time before we are as strong and good as South Dakota. Our State Horticulturist is Mr. Lloyd C. Ayres, who I believe came from South Dakota. We have had an open and dry winter here." When I came to life on Saturday morning, March 10th I found it had been snowing and blowing all night, and the radio said we had received 10 inches of it, and more coming down right along. It stopped snowing late in the afternoon, at which time we had 19 inches of the so-called beautiful stuff. It is needless to say I was AWOL from the office all day. At noon all the stores closed, and cars without chains were stuck on most all of the streets. We hope this is the last gasp of winter, but can't be sure, as March has a long way to go yet, and it was -20 Monday morning. Mrs. Geo. Sandberg, Unityville, S. D., is very anxious to obtain some planting stock of the Snow Flake potato. If any of our readers know where any can be obtained, she will be deeply grateful for the information. Have just received from Mr. Graves, a new photo and a cut is being made of it so we will be able to show him in his new and greatly reduced proportions. He writes: "One look at this one will explain why I now have such a difficult time keeping office help." Had seen the same picture on his Christmas cards, and wondered who that nice looking man could be. He didn't look at all like the "Old-Harry." An authoritative source says that building

Compost in a pit does not give the results to be had from the same material in a pile or heap. Why? Because Compost in the making, demands air and the pit does not allow a circulation as does the pile on top of the ground. Besides getting Compost out of a pit is not as simple as when it is above ground. There are advantages in the pit, in the way of easy building, and getting the Compost out of sight, but the good gardener rather expects to see a pile of Compost somewhere on the premises, and anyway, Compost should be "in the making" in every garden of any considerable size. In writing in to give us his new address, which is Victoria, B. C. Canada, Mr. George Lawson writes: "I have been growing ranunculus, since coming to the coast. I have been growing them from seed, discarding all but the best. I think it is a fine flower for cutting; long lasting, easy to grow if the conditions are right. I had an idea they would be all right for the prairie, but visitors here were shocked at the idea but took some and were delighted with results for they had flowers in early July when there was nothing else in bloom. I have had to supply fresh stock each year for they persist in keeping them over winter down the well or with the potatoes. They should be kept dry and will draw moisture like salt. They would not stand being out all winter with you, but planted as soon as the frost is out in the spring no spring frost will hurt them. They are a cool weather plant and like shade and moisture for best results, but do grow in the sun. Not everyone succeeds with them here, but they would be planted more commercially but they have branching stems, the flowers coming in succession. I would have liked to have sent you some last fall, as I had a lot of surplus stock. But though I can get stuff over here, easy enough, the way I see Custom Officers work on the border, it does not look good. Although British Columbia and Washington is practically the same country, when a tourist digs up some little evergreen in the bush, they pounce on it like they had got a red spy. Mr. Wallner wonders if anyone takes note of his travelogues. I can assure him we look forward to it and marvel that the tough old bird can get around so much at his age. May it never end." It has been so long since we had a picture of a beautiful woman on our

cover page that some of our out-of-state members have got the idea they were no longer being produced in this territory. To rid themselves of this idea, I hope they will glance at this month's cover page. Don't forget our dates at Brookings; June 27, 28 and 29th and be sure to keep those dates open so you can be with us.

GARDEN CLUB GLEANINGS—

(Continued from page 36)

The Lyons Garden Club held their February meeting with Mrs. Leroy Benson, Mrs. Melroy Johnson assisting. H. N. Dybvig, Dell Rapids, gave a talk on hardy shrubs for South Dakota.

From Gladys Wilcox comes a report of the Petal Pals club, Brookings. The January meeting was with Mrs. Wm. Wobema. Mrs. Ray Jones gave an interesting talk on "Button Gardens." Newly elected officers are: Mrs. Eugene Whitmore, president; Mrs. Sam Wilcox, vice president; Mrs. Leo Monteith, secretary-treasurer. Mrs. Nye, Mrs. Jean Mehegan, Mrs. Walter Lind, and Mrs. Fred Tanke are new members. Each was presented a carnation, and each member received a Garden Club pin.

The Community garden club, Miller, met in February with Mrs. Mildred Breeding and Mrs. Rolland Boldt. Plans were made for a float for the 75th anniversary celebration. Mrs. Kindred reported on the Plant Testing program. The club is making a quilt to raise money. Mrs. H. B. Lilly presented the program on 'Wildflowers,' and wildflower slides were shown. Slides on the Tiger Palm garden of Hong Kong and Singapore were also shown. Mrs. Burrell Collins is the reporter.

Nita Jorgensen, Dell Rapids, says, "Garden Wise, one of the many available films from commercial sources, was enjoyed at the January meeting. This film may be obtained from the Monsanto Chemical Co., St. Louis, and will be especially enjoyed by those interested in Krillium as a soil conditioner. The past year showed much accomplishment. The president's message especially praised the appearance of the big triangular flower bed at the park, which, under the direction of Mrs. Ernest Greening, was a highlight of color for the whole town.

BOOK REVIEWS

by

MRS. R. G. FERRIS



Improving Your Garden Through Soil Management, by Earl Downey. Crown Publishers, Inc., 419 Fourth Avenue, New York City 16, N. Y. 100 illustrations, Price \$3.95.

This book written in non-technical language, easily understood by all gardeners, should enable the reader to harvest from his land many exceptional crops of vegetables and flowers. It shows pictorially how to carry out the instructions and some of the results to be expected. No attempt is made to discuss every vegetable and flower, but if the basic information is absorbed, the gardener should be able to apply it to any of his plantings. There are four sections in the book, one on Soil and Its Management, one on Growing Vegetables, one on Berries and Lawns and the other section on Growing Flowers.

Bumper results for the average gardener through soil management seems to be the theme of the book. Earl F. Downey has been a student of the soil since early childhood. He raises all the crops he discusses and all the photographs were taken by him in his own garden. The author gives you complete information to get maximum results in all your horticultural efforts.

Climbing Roses by Helen Van Pelt Wileson. M. Barrows and Company, Inc., 425 Fourth Avenue, New York 16, N. Y. 212 pages, 8 in brilliant color, 48 in black and white photographs, and 16 pages of how-to drawings. Price \$3.95.

Everyone who loves roses will enjoy this book on climbing roses. It is the first one in twenty years devoted entirely to climbers. With a movement on foot in Washington to make the rose our national flower, interest in the culture of this gorgeous flower should take a spurt, and Mrs. Wilson's book could be your incentive. This is spring and the time when hope springs eternal in the gardener's heart. After reading this book I know you will place an order for roses. May the fates be kind and let them grow in your garden. Fragrance and fun might be considered the keynotes of this book. You will enjoy reading it as you would a story, for the pages are full of humor, personal experience and pleasure. To help you make a wise selection the author has chosen a group of 75 excellent climbers, classified by color and fully described with personal comments.

Helen Van Pelt Wilson is one of the most beloved gardeners in America. Author, editor, lecturer, she has traveled widely over this country and Europe. Her horticultural articles have appeared in many national magazines and newspapers, and every year she edits the *Flower Arrangement Calendar*.

BROOKINGS INVITES US—

(Continued from page 40)

3. "Hard Time Come Again No More"
A mass arrangement.
4. "Nobody Knows the Troubles I've Seen"
For novices, an exhibitor never before winning a blue ribbon.
5. "Old Oaken Bucket"
A composition using dried material.
6. "Little Brown Jug"
For men only. An arrangement of yellow and brown.
7. "In the Good Old Summertime"
An arrangement of old-fashioned flowers.
8. "Here Comes the Bride"
All white arrangement.
9. "Sweet Violets"
An arrangement for the coffee table.
10. "Slim Pickins"
Line arrangement in a cylindrical container.
A composition using only fruit. Leaves permitted.
12. "Among My Souvenirs"
A corsage.
13. "Sweet and Low"
overall including container and Miniature, measuring 3 inches overall including container and base.
14. "Tea for Two"
Arrangement for a Tea Cart.
15. "The Yellow and Blue"
College Days.
16. Home Sweet Home"
A pair of arrangements (identical) for a Mantle.

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YANKTON, SOUTH DAKOTA

LETTER FROM NEBRASKA

by

MRS. FLORA KICKEN
Sandoz Fruit Farm
Ellsworth, Nebraska

Dear Mr. Simmons:

Time for that check again and hope the new year is getting you off to a good start. Seems I'm late, as usual but at least, now with the preserving at Christmas time, I do have a good excuse. And this has been an exceptionally busy year. After Boris being in a cast with a broken foot in February and an arm operation for me in March, we finally got into our new home before spring. Then the calving, seeding, haying, fruit selling and picking for preserves gave us a steady run until October. So a few leisurely days are being enjoyed now before the new rush.

Don't know if you still have room for comments on the fruit growing from here but I'll write up a few and you can use them or not. I miss the extra magazine or two and I suppose you miss the room for print. As far as the orchards go, it was a fairly rewarding year. We had our first "advertised" pear picking in the Parkers (we pulled out all others this spring). Though the scene was a bit incongruous, we had ranchers in boots and ten gallon hats learning to pick pears with Pacific coast tools. It was a rewarding sight and I think the ranchers enjoyed it as much as we did. Of course everytime we win an inch in this struggle to get fruit for this community, it only gives us a further vision of the possibilities and the added labors of striving for further horizons. The pears were of fine quality and ripened up good after picking. We had several to put in the fruit bowl for the Christmas holidays and I was reminded of Mr. Wallner's notation of August 15th to the effect that he had 'roped' some of these pears for use later in the season. Also his comment on their quality. Now we have noted that the Parker does not bear regularly here nor is it always as good quality as last year and of course, we have some theories. I have noted that the years when the trees are suffering from moisture deficiency in late summer, we usually have no pears the next year. A lot of things could be involved but we have decided that moisture is one of the factors that we can

control so irrigation is on the agenda as soon as REA gives us the green light for a small well. We have 40 trees of bearing age that averaged eight bushels of marketable pears to the tree and we have about 200 more just beginning to bear so should be able to draw some deductions from this lot. We are still russeting them with spray but are getting closer to smooth fruit.

As for the cherries, well it seems there is always plenty of them. The price was so low that we opened for only a couple of weeks and then closed again as it did not pay to hire an attendant. We estimated a crop of seven tons. Probably sold four or five tons. There were about eight varieties of apples in the new apple trial. Some chlorosis is showing up and the State Uni is lending a hand in testing to find the cause, if possible. The Mount Royal plums were gorgeous and very tasty. We just ate our only Minnesota No. 638 apple tonight. It kept very well and was of good quality so must plant a few more to give them a better trial. Also have to put out more Oriole as they are a tempting dessert at the time they ripen. The Fireside continue to be more disappointing each year. They did not ripen at all this year. Their location is subirrigated and probably a disadvantage to their ripening better.

That is about all that we have to report from here this year except perhaps a little on our cultural trials. Because of wind erosion baring the tree roots, to a damaging degree sometimes,

we are trying to find a way around this problem. For the last three years we have done no tilling in any of the plots except to reterrace where the roots were out and the water was running off the hillside. Of course moisture tests are taken at intervals and we find that by using the power hay mower we can cut the weeds to within a few inches of the trunk (This takes a little practice). Then by finishing up with the Jari hand power weed mower it is possible to retain about the same moisture in the soil as with clean cultivation. This also has an added advantage since it is possible to let the weeds decrease soil moisture in the late fall when it is too wet for the trees to properly ripen for winter. It may look as though this is much less work than cultivating, but the mowing has to be done much oftener to keep the weeds from getting big enough to compete with the trees during dry summer periods. However there is a definite advantage because a Jari is much easier to operate than a hoe. We have run into a very thorny problem here with this mowing culture that just now is giving us some sleepless nights and that is how to keep down the sandburs without cultivation. They get so thick that it is almost impossible to harvest the fruit from some trees. Well all I know is there must be a way to control sandburs if the weed culture actually is a success in other ways.

Best wishes for a rewarding 1956.

Yours sincerely,

FLORA KICKEN

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VERMILLION, SOUTH DAKOTA

(Established 1929)

Plan to visit us next fall when the Mums are blooming. We are located on Highway 50, right in Vermillion.

JUNIOR CLUB PAGE

by

MRS. MILO SCHULTZ
131 5th N. E. Huron



Mrs. Shultz

Greetings to all Garden Club Members! We have a new National Junior Chairman, Mrs. Sam Peeples, read her page in the National Gardener, entitled, Junior Sprouts, "Grow with Us."

South Dakota does not, as yet have a Junior Garden Manual, the Iowa manual is very good and can be adapted to South Dakota, order from, Glenn Raines, State House, Des Moines, Iowa, Price 50c.

We have more good news, the Gurney Seed House, has very generously offered free seeds for our Juniors. Write them in care of Russ Rulon, for your needs. We suggest such annuals as marigolds, zinnias, asters, pinks, bachelor buttons, cosmos and sunflowers. Three or four varieties is sufficient. Thank You Gurneys!

Why not experiment with Junior Gardening? You will gain momentum as time goes on, if you have courage enough to start. Remember to include, (1) Horticulture, (2) Conservation, (3) Nature Study, (4) Flower Arranging, and (5) Flower Showing.

Experience has proven that children need personal help and supervision, which must be freely given by all members of the club as well as the chairman and her committee. You will be paid by the smiles of appreciation from the "Young Sprouts." Let us hear from you.

Cheer up. Even though you didn't see the first robin of the spring, you still have a chance to see the first dandelion.

—W. EARL HALL in MASON CITY
GLOBE GAZETTE.

Planting Trees

Northwood Anchor: It takes little effort to plant a tree. And most trees, once given a good start, need little if any care during their lifetime.

FIFTH ANNUAL ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL TOUR

by

MRS. G. R. MCARTHUR
Rocky Mt. Region News-Editor

The fifth annual Rocky Mountain Regional Tour to the National Convention of the National Council of State Garden Clubs in Salt Lake City, Utah, is now available and open for registrations. This tour is prepared especially for members of the Rocky Mountain Region in Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota and Utah, by the Lincoln Tour and Travel Agency of Lincoln, Nebraska, personally conducted by W. E. Carley, Manager. The tour will be made by thirty-five passenger, air-conditioned Trailways Motor Coach with two hour rest-stops and over-night stops at comfortable hotels along the way. Included in the cost of the tour are transportation to and back from Salt Lake City, historical and scenic highlights along the route with all baggage handling, tips and hotel accommodations based on two persons sharing a twin-bedded room with bath, all sight-seeing trips plus the mutual interest and joint participation in the fun and good-fellowship of the crowd. Mr. W. E. Carley, as tour-escort has made each successive tour more interesting, comfortable and pleasant for the group. Mr. George E. Rains of Omaha, registered driver with a pleasant, jovial disposition who has piloted the motor coach on each of the successive regional tours, will again be with us.

The tour will leave Omaha, Nebraska at 8:00 A.M. May 29th from the Trailways Bus Terminal at 16th and Jackson St. and arrive back in Omaha June 15th at 6 p.m. Included in the tour itinerary are such highlights as a day and two nights at Colorado Springs with trips to Pikes Peak, Garden of the Gods, Will Rogers, "Shrine of the Sun," Cheyenne Mountain tour and others. South through the Royal Gorge, Black Canyon of the Gunnison to Durango, a stop at Mesa Verda Park, Idaho Falls, tour the Grand Teton National Park and Jackson Hole Valley, Hot Springs and Custer and back through the Black Hills with a day in the North Hills and a day at Mt. Rushmore, Cathedral Spires, Syl-

van Lake and the Bad Lands. You may leave the tour at any point in your state with an adjustment made in the cost of the tour.

From June 3rd to June 8th will be spent in Salt Lake City attending the National Convention. A few of the highlights are "Tour of the International Peace Gardens and Pioneer Mormon Shrines," Horticulture Forum and Exhibits; Lectures; luncheons and banquets with outstanding speakers; Evening Performance of the Centennial Play, "The Promised Valley" by a Mormon cast in pioneer costume; City Garden Tour with Tea at State Capital; the convention closing with an evening concert by the world famous "MORMON TABERNACLE CHOIR" of 400 voices under the direction of J. Spencer Cornwall. (Read Deader's Digest, March 1956, "Salt Lake City Tabernacle Sings"). The week of hotel, meals and convention expense is NOT included in the cost of the tour. The cost per person on tour from Omaha is \$174.75. Reservations are made on come first basis. Early reservations are advisable—address Lincoln Tour and Travel Agency, 204 South 13th St. Lincoln 8, Nebraska. Advise name of your Garden Club and person with whom you wish to room, each member is limited to one piece of baggage, cosmetic case may be carried by member. This is the first time the National Council of State Garden Clubs have held a National Convention in the Rocky Mountain Region, members are urged to support our Region and our National President Elect, Mrs. Daniel J. Mooney of Butte, Montana. Send reservations in at once.

In his lifetime, the average man spends 20 years working and 20 years sleeping. Then he spend 16 years playing, 5 years shaving and dressing; 5 years eating; and 3 years just waiting. He also spends almost a year using the telephone. These studies were made by U. S. Census Bureau and University of Wisconsin. It just seems that in those 5 years that he spends eating, we should be able to shove a lot of apples his way.

—A. F. VIERHELLER, in THE
MARYLAND FRUIT GROWER.

Only the rich can be eccentric. The poor have to be satisfied with being nuts.

—ARGUS-LEADER

ROSES

by

MRS. CARL METZGER



Mrs. Metzger

I promised when I told about putting your roses to bed that I would chat with you about our visit to the Test Gardens at Lake Harriet, Minneapolis. By the way, did you remember (1) to hill up the plants before the big snow and (2) to invert boxes of leaves over the hills? I got that far but (3) the pile of straw to use as a cover is still lying under the snow. But that will be O.K. for the snow is ample protection until it melts and then the straw can be placed over the bed until growing time, early April, that is. The idea is to keep the roses at an even temperature, to "keep them cold" as George Luxton recommended. He also recommended evergreen boughs as an excellent cover. But back to the Test Gardens. It so happened that Carl Holtz, the head rosarian, was there and took "time out" to show us around. The Peace Rose, Number 1 in the AARS Parade, glorious in all its pastel shades, was doing especially well. The plants were vigorous and well branched with as many as ten to fifteen huge blossoms per branch. He was justly proud of his plot of Montezuma roses. The Montezuma rose is the New King of the Grandifloras. A grandiflora has the best qualities of both the Hybrid Tea and the Floribunda. Its long buds and double blooms have the Hybrid Tea perfection and its free-blooming clusters resemble the Floribunda. It has a special "color appeal" all its own, the long oval buds slowly changing from scarlet-orange to salmon-orange. If it does so well in Minneapolis it should do itself proud right here in Huron. I feel that we should choose the roses which do well in the Great Plains area.

Another plot of roses which were blooming their hearts out that hot day in July was Golden Masterpiece. Mr. Holtz rated it the best yellow in his gardens, superior to Fred Howard and Eclipse. Golden Masterpiece has handsome foliage, old rose fragrance, deep yellow 2 inch buds, 6 to 7 inch blooms and is vigorous and hardy in our Nor-

thern locale. It well repays the loving labor expended. The bed of Circus roses was very nice but our rose guide considered Tiffany and Juno more rewarding. However it may require a second year's growth to bring out its beauty. As Circus is the one and only 1956 All America winner I'm game to try it as, to me, its description vies with that of Peace. It sounds like a Peace rose in Floribunda form. We listened very carefully to the way these beautiful gardens were planted, fertilized, and winterized. Perhaps come spring you will enjoy hearing about their spring and summer care.

This is a far cry from the modern roses of 1956 but just have to tell you about a tree Mr. Holtz showed us. It was the Ginkko tree, set up by botanists in a class by itself as it is a relief from the giant tree ferns of the Reptile Age. Like them its pollen is not transmitted by winds or insects but swims like fern sperms wriggling through rain or dew. Its berries, like miniature buff colored plums are seldom seen as it takes 30 years for the fruit to produce. The silver nut kernel tastes like rancid butter. The tiny leaf forms with wavy edges, are shaped like tiny pie wedges. These trees grow in the dirt cracks of the scorching pavements of the big cities, resisting the soot and the fumes. Truly an antique trend to modern living is the Ginkko tree. We placed its leaves between the pages of Platt's Guide to Trees, a fitting memento of the interesting and worthwhile visit.

NEWSLANTS—

(Continued from Page 35)

Newsletter for February, O. A. Stevens, Editor:

In the Plant Science Bulletin for January a Chinese professor of history writes on the importance of American food plants in China. The peanut is believed to have been introduced by the Portuguese in 1516. It was considered a delicacy at first but after 1700 became an important food crop. Sweet potatoes were known as early as 1560. Maize was introduced before 1550 but was little grown until after 1770. The Irish potato has increased in importance in recent years for the colder areas. One authority estimates that rice made up 70 per cent of the cereal crops in 1637 and by 1937 it had dropped to 36 per cent.

An interesting contribution to weed

books comes from the Delaware Experiment Station in the form of a key to weeds of northeastern United States. It includes 346 species, giving a short description and an illustration of a lower leaf of each.

Blanket Flower (*Gaillardia*) is one of the native North Dakota flowers that is common in cultivation. The sunflower like heads have a striking color pattern, reddish in the center and yellow in the outer parts. W. P. Stoutamire at Indiana University recently studied the genetics of these plants, using the form from southern United States, which has more of an annual habit than the northern one. Chromosome number was 17 in all lots. Material from southern Texas, Florida and North Carolina crossed freely but crosses with northern Texas, New Mexico and Oklahoma material were less successful. The author concluded that this partial sterility was caused by structural differences in the chromosomes, not by incompatible gene combinations.

We grew Topcrop as well as Seminole snap beans in our garden in 1955. Seminole is the variety from Florida that won all America recognition last year. It did all right for us, but we couldn't see where it was an improvement on Topcrop. This year, I think we will plant Topcrop or Wade—or both. Tendergreen has excellent quality, but can't stand up to disease like Topcrop and Wade.

For folks who would like to have the basic principles of landscaping spelled out for them there is now a good book available for \$1.00. It is, "You Can Landscape Your Own Home," by Franc P. Daniels. It is available from the Minnetonka Publishing Company at Long Lake, Minnesota. The book is well illustrated with pen and ink sketches. Several different types of houses are landscaped and the reasons given. The best book of its kind I have seen.

By the way, have you written for your copy of "Woody Ornamentals for North Dakota?" It is available from the Information Department, North Dakota Agricultural College, Fargo. For those of you who may have missed the first announcement, let me say it is rated as one of the best bulletins on any subject ever published at NDAC. Authors are Donald Hoag and the late Dr. J. H. Schultz. Better get a copy before it is out of print.

Wayside.....



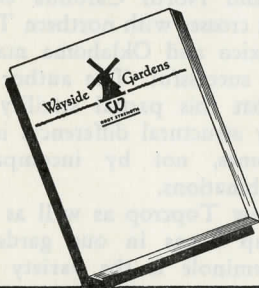
splendid new flowers



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Wayside



Gardens

ARBOR DAY—

(Continued from page 41)

vide shade. Plant a tree to help control the water runoff. Plant a tree to encourage the bird and animal friends to nest and live near you.

ARBOR DAY is set by legislature as the last Friday in April of every year and this year ARBOR DAY falls on the 28th of April.

Last year a concentrated effort was made by several agencies of government and organizations to promote ARBOR DAY. It is evident that many schools and organizations did observe ARBOR DAY by planting trees. There is evidence that many will continue this year and there will be many who will make initial planting of some kind on ARBOR DAY. Whether it be a single commemorative tree or a magnificent planting, it is hoped that there will be some observance of ARBOR DAY.

It is urged that everyone assist in bringing attention to the general public the fact that we have a date set aside to plant and beautify our state and to encourage everyone to plant a tree.

MANITOBA NEWS LETTER—

(Continued from page 37)

Combs were made by binding tightly in a round clump, about 2 inches in diameter, a bunch of the seed of sparta or needle grass.

In the catalog of medicines nearly every plant had some real or fancied therapeutic value and I shall touch on only a few of the outstanding ones here, most of which have been demonstrated to have some worth.

For colds and throat troubles drinks were brewed from cedar berries, anemone roots and the plants of the native pennyroyal.

Sweet flag was esteemed as a general tonic and this use of it is by no means new. I can well remember how my grandfather back in New York state used to collect and dry it and send some to my father when I was a boy.

The wild licorice which grows in quantities on the river bottoms was collected and the roots dried and chewed for the taste. It was also valued as a remedy for tooth-ache.

The echinacea or prairie coneflower was a particularly valuable plant. In

the first place a decoction steeped from the roots was considered a specific for kidney trouble. The juice was most efficacious in soothing and healing burns. The juice was also valued from the fact that it was used by jugglers and medicine men. After rubbing their arms and feet thoroughly with it they were able to plunge their arms into kettles of boiling water or dance on red hot stones without any apparent injury. By chewing it their mouths were rendered immune to fire which they would thrust into them. The fact that they performed these feats frequently and for all to see, lends weight to the belief that they had some means of protection. The root was also used in the treatment of rattlesnake bite applied as a poultice. And there is general agreement among both Indians and frontier whites that it was efficacious.

An alarm clock has been defined as a mechanical device to wake up people in homes where there are no children.
—W. EARL HALL in MASON CITY GLOBE GAZETTE.

DAKOTA HORTICULTURE